

C.F.R. §§ 1.821 through 1.825. In response to this Office Communication, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An isolated peptide comprising the peptide sequence of formula (I),

Xaa-Cys-Xab-Cys-Xac-Cys-Xad-Cys-Xae-Cys-Xaf-Cys-Xag (SEQ ID NO:39)

(I)

in which:

Xaa is -NH_2 or a peptide residue consisting essentially of from 1 to 10 amino acids; preferably from 1 to 6 amino acids;

Xab is a peptide residue consisting essentially of from 1 to 10 amino acids, preferably 10;

Xac is a peptide residue of 3 amino acids;

Xad is a peptide residue consisting essentially of from 1 to 9 amino acids, preferably 9;

Xae is a peptide residue consisting essentially of from 1 to 7 amino acids, preferably 7;

Xaf is a peptide residue of 1 amino acid; and

Xag is -OH or a peptide residue consisting essentially of from 1 to 5 amino acids, preferably 1 or 2 amino acids.

c2 5. (Amended) Peptide according to claim 1, characterized in that Xad represents the following peptide sequence -Lys-Xad'-Xad"-Gly-His- (SEQ ID NO:40), in which Xad' represents a peptide residue of 1 basic amino acid and Xad" represents a peptide residue comprising from 0 to 5 amino acids, preferably 5.

c3 6. (Amended) Peptide according to claim 1, characterized in that Xad represents the following peptide sequence -Lys-Arg-Arg-Gly-Tyr-Lys-Gly-Gly-His- (SEQ ID NO:41).

11. (Amended) Peptide according to claim 1, characterized in that Xaa represents the following peptide sequence Xaa'-Gly-Xaa"- (SEQ ID NO:42), in which Xaa' represents NH₂ or a peptide residue comprising 1 to 9 amino acids, preferably 1 to 5 amino acids, and Xaa" represents a peptide residue comprising at least one amino acid, preferably chosen from Leu, Ile, Val, Pro, Ser or Thr, and/or

Xab represents the following peptide sequence -Val-Xab'-Asp- (SEQ ID NO:43) in which Xab' represents a peptide residue comprising from 0 to 8 amino acids, preferably 8, and/or

c4 Xae represents the following peptide sequence -Gly-Xae'-Asn- (SEQ ID NO:44), in which Xae' represents a peptide residue comprising from 0 to 5 amino acids, preferably 5, and/or

Xaf represents one of the following amino acids Trp, Phe, Leu, Ile or Val, and/or

Xag represents the following peptide sequence -Glu-Xag' (SEQ ID NO:45), in which Xag' represents OH or a variable residue having a sequence comprising 1 to 4 amino acids, preferably 1 amino acid.

12. (Amended) Peptide according to claim 1, characterized in that Xaa represents the following peptide sequence NH₂-Asp-Lys-Leu-Ile-Gly-Ser- (SEQ ID NO:46), and/or

Xab represents the following peptide sequence -Val-Trp-Gly-Ala-Val-Asn-Tyr-Thr-Ser-Asp-
(SEQ ID NO:47), and/or

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Xae represents the following peptide sequence -Gly-Ser-Phe-Ala-Asn-Val-Asn (SEQ ID NO:48),
and/or

Xaf represents the following amino acid -Trp- and/or

Xag represents the following peptide sequence -Glu-Thr-OH.

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16. (Amended) Peptide according to claim 1, characterized in that it comprises
disulfide bridges established between the first and fourth cysteine residues, the second and fifth
cysteine residues, and the third and sixth cysteine residues of the peptide sequence of formula (I).

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paper copy of the Sequence Listing previously filed with the paper
copy of the Sequence Listing enclosed herewith, inserting the Sequence Listing into the
specification after the Abstract of the Disclosure.

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Communication dated October
30, 2002 in the above-identified application. Claims 1-20, 22-44 and 46 are pending. By this
amendment, Applicants have by inserting sequence identifiers into Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 12 and 16,
as requested by the Examiner, thereby placing the claims in condition for allowance. No new
matter is introduced by these amendments.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, Applicants have provided (1) accurate instructions
to amend the claims, (2) replacement claims in clean form herein, and (3) another version of the
amended claims marked up to show all the changes relative to the previous version, which
appears on an attached page.